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News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

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Middle East Is Troubled Region

U. S. Trying to Assist Egypt and Israel in Settling Bitter Quarrel

ALONG the southeastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea, where Israel and Egypt join, is a sun-baked rectangle of land, 25 miles long and 5 miles wide. From its southern end, which is attached to Egypt, this narrow corridor thrusts—like a sore thumb—into Israel. This is the Gaza strip, where—in recent weeks—frequent troop clashes have been threatening to engulf the Middle East in a full-scale war.

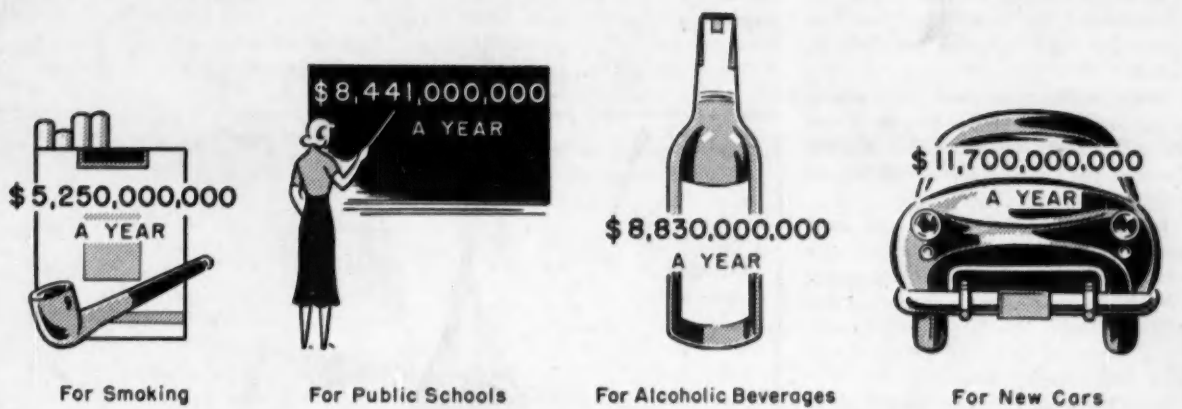
The troubled area receives its name from the ancient city of Gaza which it encloses. Today the Gaza strip, controlled by Egypt, is jammed with refugees. They are Arabs who were made homeless as a result of the war between Israel and the Arab lands 7 years ago. In camps around Gaza are more than 210,000 of these unfortunate people.

The refugees are one factor in the dispute that has been threatening to touch off a Middle Eastern war. Their very presence in the Gaza strip is a constant reminder to Egypt of her differences with Israel. Moreover, the refugees have been involved in frequent border incidents which have helped to keep feelings high between the two countries.

Basically, though, the issues which have lately had Egypt and Israel at swords' points are the same ones that have existed since 1948. Time, in—

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AMERICANS ARE SPENDING —



HOW MUCH IS EDUCATION worth to us as individuals and to the nation as a whole? The answer to this question deserves the serious consideration of all Americans.

School Growth Creates Problems

With Student Population Reaching Nearly 40,000,000, Nation Seeks A Way to Overcome Serious Shortages of Teachers and of Classrooms

THIS month, as the nation's schools and colleges began their new fall term, government officials estimated that the total number of students would reach almost 40,000,000. Young people in school make up nearly a fourth of our country's entire population.

For the 11th consecutive year, there is an increase in the total number of American students. Public and private elementary schools received 1,300,000 more pupils this year than last. High schools serve over a quarter of a million more students, while college and university enrollment has increased by nearly 100,000. It is

expected that our school population will continue to increase rapidly—probably reaching 50,000,000 within the next 8 years.

This growth—present and future—creates serious problems, including shortages of teachers and of school buildings. In many areas where teachers are scarce, each instructor must handle such large classes that the individual student's needs can't possibly get adequate attention. More than 63,000 new teachers have graduated from the nation's colleges and universities within the last year, but we need far more. Not enough young people are entering the teaching pro-

fession to fill all the demands for new instructors.

There are various steps by which greater numbers might be attracted into the teaching profession. Urgent in many states is the need for higher pay. The average American teacher's salary last year was about \$3,800—considerably below what a person might earn in numerous jobs which do not call for so much skill or preparation. (Though teachers' salaries have risen considerably during recent years, a general upswing in living costs has swallowed a large part of the gain.)

In many sections of the country, meanwhile, young people go to classes in buildings that are crowded, uncomfortable, and unsafe. Pupils in some districts can attend school only part-time, because there isn't enough classroom space to accommodate all of them at once.

New classrooms reportedly are being constructed at the rate of about 60,000 per year. But, here again, we fail to keep pace with the rapid growth in America's school population.

Our educational system is doing a good job, despite its handicaps and shortcomings. This country's population approximately doubled during the first half of the present century, but its high schools graduated over 12 times as many students in 1950 as in 1900, while its colleges graduated more than 17 times as many.

The amount of money which we devote to education is rising. According to the latest definite figures available, we are spending at least 8.4 billion dollars annually on public elementary and high schools—compared to 6.5 billion during the 1949-50 school year. But, since the country's future strength, prosperity, and happiness depend to a large extent upon the

(Concluded on page 2)

HERE AND ABROAD - - - PEOPLE, PLACES, AND EVENTS

FLOATING STOREHOUSES

The Department of Agriculture has a "navy" of 422 ships. They are used to store almost 70 billion bushels of surplus grain. The vessels are anchored in rivers and harbors in Oregon, Washington, Virginia, and New York.

ATOMS FOR PEACE

The government recently released nearly 1,000 reports on atomic energy which have until now been secret or restricted. The information that was made public can be used by various industries for peaceful purposes. The release of these reports is part of the government's program to spread atomic knowledge for the benefit of mankind.

JAPANESE SCHOOLS

More than 99 per cent of Japanese children now attend school regularly. This gives Japan one of the highest school attendance records in the world. As a result, nearly all people in that country can read and write.

Japan ranks among the top nations in the high rate of literacy among her citizens.

COST OF UN

United States membership in the United Nations costs each person in the country less than a dime a year. Even counting all the UN special agencies and aid programs, the cost comes to only 56 cents per American, according to our Ambassador to the UN, Henry Cabot Lodge. He recently announced that America's membership in the world organization is costing a little over \$13,000,000 a year. This is equal to what an average 10 hours of World War II cost us.

SPEED MARK

An Air Force test pilot recently set a new world speed record. Colonel Horace Hanes flew his F-100 Sabre jet at 822 miles an hour to break the old record of 755 miles an hour. His speed was carefully checked by electronic devices on the ground which followed the plane's flight.

Rocket airplanes, which operate on a different principle from that of jets, have set unofficial speed marks of 1,500 miles per hour and more. But rocket planes burn up their fuel too fast to make flights over the regular courses that are required for an official timing.

RATIONING IN CHINA

Communist China, like Russia, is having trouble feeding its people. Chinese authorities have ordered that grain be rationed to all city inhabitants. At the same time that the urban dwellers have to tighten their belts, the leaders have put into effect new measures in an effort to make the farmers produce and deliver more grain.

The Chinese communist rulers hope that the new rationing system will help to solve their problems. Under the new rules, the amount of grain each person receives will vary according to age, type of work, and the grain-eating habits of various parts of the country.

Should Uncle Sam Help Pay for Schools?

(Concluded from page 1)

quality of its schools, many people feel that we still are spending far too little on education.

Late in November, delegates from all parts of America will gather in Washington for a special White House Conference on Education. These delegates will discuss, among other things, the question of how much we should be spending on school construction and upkeep—and the problem of how the money for such purposes can best be raised.

Many will argue that our school needs could more easily be met if the federal government carried a sizable share of the costs. Others will vigorously oppose this view.

In America today, state and local governments do practically all the work—and carry most of the financial burden—connected with operating our public schools. Under certain conditions, however, they can get some aid from the federal treasury.

For instance, Uncle Sam gives money to help build new schools in towns whose populations have mushroomed because of defense enterprises located nearby. The federal government has furnished substantial amounts of food for school lunches, and it makes funds available to help with vocational training. But, despite all this, the United States government provides only about 3 per cent of the money spent on public schools in this country.

Larger Share?

Should our federal government be paying a larger share of the costs of education? This question has been debated for many years. It was a subject of heated dispute in Congress a few months ago. Since no agreement was reached, the matter is sure to be brought up again when the lawmakers return to Washington for a new session.

The controversy over federal aid for the schools is many-sided. According to some groups of people, Uncle Sam's educational activities should not be increased at all—and possibly should even be reduced. Others favor a somewhat limited rise in federal spending for educational purposes, while still others want a large-scale program of U. S. aid to the schools. In the remainder of this article, we shall examine some of the different viewpoints.

First, let's hear from those who, in general, oppose federal aid to the schools. Their arguments may be summarized as follows:

"We fully understand the importance of education in the life of our country. We realize that school facilities—in some areas at least—need much improvement. But we believe that the job of making and financing such improvement should be left to the states and the communities.

"Nearly everybody agrees that the schools should be kept under state and local control, and responsive to local needs and conditions. Any sizable degree of federal financial aid, whether for school construction or for upkeep, would bring the danger of federal domination. Therefore we oppose such aid.

"The federal government is already spending too much money and exerting too much influence over our lives.

Communities and states already depend too heavily upon Washington, and rely too little upon their own capabilities and resources. Uncle Sam should be reducing his activities—not expanding them. If the U. S. government would trim its spending, and cut its taxes, then the state and local governments could levy higher taxes for school purposes without making any increase in the citizen's over-all tax load.

"As a matter of fact, Uncle Sam

school authorities. These state or local officials would manage the use of such funds.

"Our country can't avoid the fact that education is to some extent a national problem. Americans are always on the move. Families are constantly migrating from one region to another. Poorly educated people from areas with inferior school systems can thus become a burden upon states many hundreds of miles away.

"Some of our states are less pros-

perous than others. These poorer states now find it extremely difficult to raise money for improvement of their schools. But, under a federal aid program, they could be assisted with part of the tax money that Uncle Sam collects in the more prosperous regions. Since education is a national as well as a local problem, it would be entirely proper for the federal government to help equalize the school burden in this way.

lion-dollar school construction program to take place over a period of 3 years. Most of the money, however, would be furnished by the state and local governments.

U. S. aid for this program would be limited to about \$900,000,000 in loans, plus gifts of \$220,000,000. Federal grants and loans would thus amount to less than a sixth of the entire 7-billion-dollar outlay. Eisenhower and his followers think this plan would give a proper balance between federal action on one hand, and state and local action on the other.

There are many advocates of federal aid, though, who don't believe that the Eisenhower proposal goes far enough. They think the U. S. government should furnish a great deal more money for school construction than the administration's plan would offer. During the regular 1955 session of Congress, quite a few bills were introduced by lawmakers who hold this latter viewpoint.

Another Proposal

One such measure proposed the following: Over the next 4 years, Uncle Sam would give the states 1.6 billion dollars for school construction. This gift, plus a large amount in the form of U. S. loans, would go to help the states and communities finance a 9-billion-dollar building program.

As can be seen, this last-mentioned proposal would provide a great deal more federal aid than would the Eisenhower plan. While many observers insist that it would be unwise for Uncle Sam to spend so much on school construction, others think it would be shortsighted for him not to do so.

We have already noted that Congress this year took no final action and reached no definite agreement on plans for a stepped-up program of federal aid to schools. It remains to be seen what the nation's lawmakers will do about this issue when they return to Washington for a new session.

In any event, questions involving our educational system almost certainly will attract an increasing amount of attention as the country's school population continues its rapid growth.

Fingerprinting

A section of the McCarran-Walter immigration law, requiring the fingerprinting of non-official visitors to the United States, may soon be repealed. The Eisenhower administration is becoming convinced that the security value of this measure is outweighed by the irritation it causes other nations.

Fingerprinting in Russia and eastern Europe is said to be used mainly in connection with criminals, and is considered very debasing. This spring the Soviet Union canceled a proposed U. S. visit by a group of its student editors because they would have had to be fingerprinted. The tour of Russian farm leaders in this country was almost halted for the same reason.

Government officials who favor elimination of this procedure feel that such action would go far toward improving relations between the United States and communist countries. Those opposed still believe that the fingerprinting of foreign visitors helps to safeguard the nation's security.



WHAT TO DO? School construction isn't catching up with needs of students at present, and the number of students is growing year by year.

even now is too active in the school field. For example, the U. S. government distributes millions of dollars to help pay for vocational training in the public schools. This is a federal outlay which might well be reduced or eliminated. States and local communities should raise their own school funds and support their own educational programs as they see fit, without interference from Washington."

Though this opinion is held by quite a few Americans, there are also large numbers who oppose it—and who feel that the federal government should play a role in public school finance. Such people don't agree among themselves on all points. Some, for instance, favor more federal spending than do others. But practically all of them would support a statement such as the following:

"We don't want federal control over the public schools. We know that the schools should always be run according to the wishes of the people in the communities they serve.

"It isn't true, however, that U. S. financial aid would bring federal domination. Under various proposals which have been made, the national government would simply furnish money, in specified amounts, to the state or local

perous than others. These poorer states now find it extremely difficult to raise money for improvement of their schools. But, under a federal aid program, they could be assisted with part of the tax money that Uncle Sam collects in the more prosperous regions. Since education is a national as well as a local problem, it would be entirely proper for the federal government to help equalize the school burden in this way.

"Poor school facilities, wherever they exist, can harm the nation as a whole. Therefore the federal government should give financial aid to the schools. It should give more than it is now providing—especially to districts which are least able to support good schools on their own."

Beyond this point, the different groups who favor federal aid have a hard time reaching any agreement. How much federal aid? How should it be furnished? These are among the questions dividing them.

Among those Americans who favor a comparatively small boost in federal school aid is President Eisenhower. His views on the subject were outlined in a special message to Congress, early this year.

Eisenhower proposed a new 7-bil-

Readers Say—

I believe that the United States should give economic aid to the countries of the Middle East. We must help them to raise their living standard and set up strong military forces.

ATTILA TAMASY,
Duluth, Minnesota.

★

Our sociology classes have been discussing recreational opportunities offered to young people by small towns like our own. We feel that the lack of such opportunities is a major problem for many communities. We would like to hear from other small towns to find out how they are solving this problem.

SOCIOLOGY CLASSES OF
ZELIENOPLE HIGH SCHOOL,
Zelienople, Pennsylvania.

★

The United Nations should have a world army composed of troops from each member nation. With such an army to safeguard peace, countries would think twice before committing acts of aggression.

CHARLOTTE MASTERN,
Decker, Michigan.



Americans are traditionally friendly people. It just isn't natural for us to be enemies of any particular group of individuals. That is why I feel we should make every effort to be friendly with the Russians even though we oppose their regime.

NANCY FLETCHER,
Richmond, Virginia.

★

In general, our class feels that a basic cause of juvenile delinquency is the lack of parental supervision. Since, in many cases, both parents work, there isn't much that can be done about this problem.

We believe that schools, churches, and other community organizations should teach young people how to make better use of their leisure time. These groups should also teach the youth how to prepare for marriage and parenthood.

CURRENT GOVERNMENT PROBLEMS
CLASS, CHAMBERSBURG HIGH
SCHOOL,
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

★

I think that we should continue to give aid to Yugoslavia. She is too valuable an ally to lose.

KATHRYN TURNER,
Zanesville, Ohio.

★

(Address letters to this column to: Readers Say, AMERICAN OBSERVER, 1733 K Street, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.)



HAL MARCH, master of ceremonies, puts a question to a contestant on "The \$64,000 Question"—the popular CBS television quiz show

Radio-TV-Movies

A NEW idea in television is being tested in Washington, D. C. Junior Journal, a weekly half-hour TV show, is prepared and presented by young people 13 to 19 years old. It is the only program on the air which is produced entirely by teenagers.

The show is organized on the basis of a newspaper office. Each week the participants prepare a 6-page edition of their newspaper, the *Junior Journal*. They discuss the week's news, read an editorial and several letters to the editor, play the hit record of the week, comment on a recommended book, and present other news and material of interest to the audience.

The material that the *Junior Journal* editors present is selected mainly for young people. However, the producers of this new program believe that they have an idea that is of interest to adults as well.

Why not find out about starting a Junior Journal TV show in your locality? Address your inquiries to Junior Journal, Creative Associates, 1025 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

A radio program that combines education and entertainment is "Invitation to Learning." Each Sunday on the CBS network, moderator Lyman Bryson leads a discussion of books and literature. Most of the material presented has historical as well as literary interest.

See your newspaper for the time and station.

★

Despite the growing appeal of television, radio has kept its share of fans—and has been doing some growing itself. The number of TV sets in the country has jumped from about 1/2 million to over 36 million in the past 7 years. At the same time, radio sets in the nation's homes have increased from about 75 million to more than 130 million. In addition, there are 29 million automobile radios.

★

The latest trend in Hollywood is toward biographical movies. Subjects of coming films include—among others—airman Charles Lindbergh, General Billy Mitchell, and musician Benny Goodman.

Science in the News

A SCIENTIST working in England has found a way to reverse an insect's aging process so that it grows younger instead of older. Professor Vincent Wigglesworth of Cambridge University does not yet know whether his experiment would work on higher forms of life, including humans.

The professor has treated adult insects with the blood and certain cells of baby insects. The adults grow younger for quite a period, and they live several times their normal life span.

★

Wind tunnel tests are expected to help farmers protect their land and homes against wind damage. At a special college in Manhattan, Kansas, scientists are learning how much protection different kinds of barriers give from strong winds. They set up toy-size farm houses and barns, together with tiny trees and subject them to wind-machine attacks. The results of the tests will enable farmers to take protective measures against future damage.

A new device cuts down the loud howl of jet airplane engines to a point where they can hardly be heard. Scientists have been working on this problem since they found that new powerful jet motors generate 150 decibels of sound—equal to 1 1/2 billion people all talking at once.

The new silencer consists of a sievelike covering. Noisy gases from the engine escape through many small holes instead of one large opening.

★

Most people know that man, as a race, is growing bigger and living longer. Now scientists tell us that most animals are doing the same.

Dogs today live an average of about 12 years. Twenty years ago a dog's life averaged 7 or 8 years. The life span of many other animals has been increased similarly.

Farm animals are being scientifically bred and fed to grow bigger and live longer. Beef cattle have more beef; cows give more milk; and chickens and pigs grow faster and have more meat on their bones.

Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are on page 8, column 4.

1. Some observers believe our military aid may *obscure* (ôb-skûr') our economic assistance to foreign countries. (a) be less than (b) overshadow or hide (c) equal.

2. A *registered* (rêj'is-têr-d) voter is a person who (a) always supports the same party (b) is 21 years of age or older (c) has signed the official roll and is qualified to vote.

3. Australia has many *pastoral* (pâs'têr'l) scenes of great beauty. (a) unusual (b) mountain (c) city (d) rural.

4. Many people think our method of nominating Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates is *anachronistic* (â-nâk'rô-nis'tik). (a) undemocratic (b) suited to present-day needs (c) not suited to the present time.

5. The *electorate* (ê-lêk'turr-it) includes only (a) members of the Democratic Party (b) members of the Republican Party (c) people entitled to vote in an election (d) people who do not intend to vote.

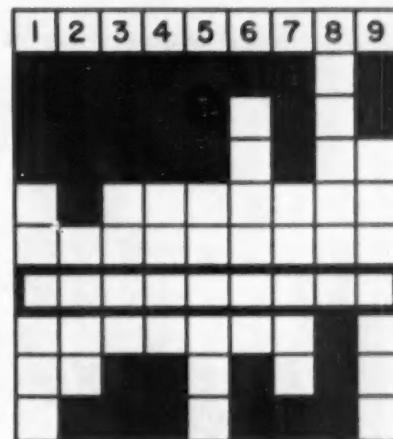
6. *Sino* (sî'nô) in such expressions as Sino-Japanese and Sino-American refers to (a) China (b) Singapore (c) Siam (d) San Antonio.

7. The right of *suffrage* (sûf'rij) is the right to (a) belong to a political party (b) vote in an election (c) pay taxes (d) suffer.

CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE

Fill in numbered vertical rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell an ancient name for a Middle Eastern land.

- Capital of Kansas.
- Small area that Egypt won in war with Israel in 1948.
- Famous river in Egypt.
- Important canal in the Middle East.
- Gamal _____ heads Egypt's government.
- Nearly a _____ of our population attends our schools.
- Capital of Egypt.
- A Middle East river and country.
- One big educational issue of the day involves _____ aid to schools.



Last Week

HORIZONTAL: North Africa. VERTICAL: 1. Syngman Rhee; 2. Seoul; 3. third; 4. fifty; 5. fourth; 6. Sultan; 7. Hartford; 8. Berber; 9. turnpikes; 10. Morocco; 11. railways.

The Story of the Week

New Scholarship Plan

Are you planning to go to college after you finish high school? If so, you may be interested in a new nationwide scholarship plan.

A new group, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, has been set up to help provide financial aid to high school students on the basis of nation-wide competitions. The organization has received contributions from a number of philanthropic groups and business firms, including the Ford Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation.

All high schools throughout the nation—private as well as public—are being invited to nominate candidates for scholarships. These candidates will then be given a series of tests, and those with the highest scores will be selected to take part in the scholarship program.

Winners of this year's grants are to be named some time before next May 1. The amount of funds granted to these winners will be determined on the basis of need. In some cases, full tuition as well as living costs for a four-year college course will be included in the grant. The winners will be free to attend the college of their own choice.

Ask your teacher for further information on this scholarship program, or write to the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, 1580 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois.

General Assembly Meets

The big, round-domed United Nations General Assembly hall in New York City is buzzing with activity. Delegates and their helpers from 60 nations are working there, preparing for the 10th annual General Assembly session which opens tomorrow, September 20.

The General Assembly, sometimes called the world's town meeting, is that part of the UN where member nations debate their problems. All members have an equal voice in these debates.

One of the first duties of the new General Assembly will be to choose its president for the coming year. The outgoing chief of the UN body is E. N. van Kleffens of the Netherlands.



THIS PORTABLE TV, built in England, will run on 12-volt batteries, or it can be plugged into an electrical outlet. It has a 9-inch screen, weighs only 30 pounds, and will sell for about \$168 in that country.



THESE TRIBESMEN in Morocco are among 20,000 who surrendered to the French during recent uprisings against rule by France. Natives of the territory are demanding full independence.

He will hold that office until a new president is elected.

The question of admitting new members to the UN is also expected to come up early in the session. There are some 19 countries knocking on the UN's door for membership.

Observers will particularly watch to see how vigorously Russia will try to get a UN seat for her communist ally, Red China. We strongly oppose Red Chinese membership in the UN. Japan, Ceylon, Austria, Italy, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Portugal are among the other countries seeking UN membership.

In addition to these matters, the General Assembly is expected to discuss the following issues:

1. How to achieve effective global disarmament.
2. Whether or not to call a special conference to go over proposed changes in the UN's Charter, or set of rules.
3. Plans to encourage peaceful uses of atomic energy.
4. South Korea's future and problems arising from the uneasy truce there.
5. How to settle the Arab-Jewish dispute (see page 1 story).

Accident Toll

Between 35,000 and 38,000 Americans will be killed on our highways before 1955 comes to a close, safety officials predict. Another 1¼ to 1½ million persons will be hurt as a result of auto accidents this year. Last year, motor vehicles were responsible for 36,000 deaths and 1¼ million injuries.

Fortunately, there is a bright side to this otherwise tragic picture. There are now considerably fewer highway deaths and injuries in relation to the number of cars on the road than there were some years ago.

In 1935, for instance, there were

36,000 street and highway deaths—the same as for 1954. But there were only 26 million vehicles—autos, trucks, and buses—in operation. By 1954, there were some 58 million vehicles—more than double the 1935 figure—on our roads.

Experts say that our safety record could be improved a great deal more if all motorists adopted at least two rules: (1) don't drive too fast and (2) be courteous on the highway.

Speeding, records show, is the biggest single cause of deaths and injuries on the highway. If all motorists stayed within reasonable speed limits, it is estimated that auto deaths might be cut by as much as 50 per cent or more!

Sudan at Crossroads

The Sudan is a vast African land about one third the size of our 48 states. It extends from the southern boundary of Egypt to the Belgian Congo in central Africa. Mostly Arabs live in northern Sudan, and mainly Negroes live in the south.

From 1899 until 2 years ago, the Sudan was under joint British-Egyptian rule. In 1953, after long and bitter quarrels over the control of the Sudan, Britain and Egypt decided to let the area's people work out their own future.

Britain and Egypt agreed to stay in the Sudan for a time to help that land establish its own government. A Sudanese legislative body was set up. It was given the power to decide whether the land should (1) unite with Egypt; (2) join the Commonwealth of Nations to which Britain belongs; or (3) become completely independent of outside ties.

A short time ago, the Sudan's legislature decided on independence. Just as plans were being made by Britain and Egypt to withdraw their troops

from the African land, however, trouble broke out in the southern part of the Sudan. The Negroes there said they preferred joint British-Egyptian rule to control by the northern Arabs who presently head the Sudanese government.

Now Britain says that she can't withdraw her troops from the Sudan until Arabs and Negroes work out their differences. Hence, it may be some time before the Sudan finally achieves independence.

Conflict Over Cyprus

When two or more people meet in the Mediterranean island of Cyprus these days, they frequently greet one another with the word "Enosis"—a Greek term which means "union with Greece."

A number of Cypriots, as well as the Greek government, want the island united with Greece. Turkey, which ruled Cyprus for many years before the British took it over in 1878, is also interested in the disputed area. But Britain, which now governs the island, wants to hold on to it because Cyprus is her only major defense base in the eastern Mediterranean.

Located between Turkey and Syria in the Mediterranean, Cyprus is about 3 times the size of Rhode Island. Of the 500,000 Cypriots living on the island, some 8 out of 10 have a Greek background. The remainder are largely Moslem Turks.

Not long ago, representatives of the 3 allies—Britain, Greece, and Turkey—met to talk over the future of Cyprus. Thus far, the only known result of these meetings is a British pledge to help Cypriots establish a government to handle their domestic affairs. Dealings with other countries and defense matters are to be left in British hands.

Britain's proposal doesn't satisfy the Greeks who insist that Cyprus must be joined to their country. The Turks are willing to accept the plan until another solution can be worked out for the island. Turkey has strongly backed Britain in opposing a union of Cyprus with Greece. If the Turks can't gain control of the island, they don't want the Greeks to do so.

Hence, the Cyprus issue has led to growing bitterness between the two Mediterranean allies. Anti-Greek demonstrations and riots have broken out in some Turkish cities. In Greece, anti-Turkish sentiment has also led to outbreaks of violence.

Campaign Guns Boom

The 1956 Presidential election is still many months away. Nevertheless, both Republicans and Democrats are already getting their campaign guns ready for that big contest.

Former President Truman plans to make a number of additional campaign speeches this fall. He kicked off the 1956 Presidential election campaign for the Democrats a few weeks ago with stinging criticisms of the Eisenhower administration.

Adlai Stevenson, the Democratic Presidential candidate who lost to Eisenhower in 1952, also has campaign speeches scheduled for this fall. Stevenson plans to talk in Green Bay, Wisconsin, early next month, and in New York City October 31. In one of his public appearances, he is expected to announce whether or not he plans to seek his party's nomination as next year's Presidential candidate.

The GOP political camp is likewise active. Earlier this month, President Eisenhower called on the Republican Party chairmen from all 48 states to meet with him in Denver, Colorado.

In that city, where the Chief Executive is vacationing, Republicans drew up plans for the 1956 campaign. Though the President hasn't yet said "yes" or "no" to GOP requests that he head his party's ticket in 1956, some political observers say that his meeting with Republican leaders indicates that he will again be a Presidential candidate.



THE UNITED NATIONS General Assembly opens its 1955-1956 session at UN headquarters in New York City tomorrow, September 20. Delegates to an earlier session are shown in the modern assembly auditorium.

In addition to the Denver meeting, GOP leaders are planning many state and local get-togethers to strengthen their party. The National Federation of Republican Women, for instance, has plans for 10 major political meetings this fall to push "vote Republican" drives in preparation for next year.

Congressional Probes

Day by day, congressmen who traveled abroad on fact-finding tours are returning home. Some lawmakers went to Russia, others to countries in Western Europe and the Middle East, and still others to lands in other corners of the globe.

A number of the returning lawmakers are going back to work carrying on special congressional investigations. All in all, there are some two dozen probes scheduled for this fall.

One Senate group, for instance, will investigate our foreign economic poli-

cies, such as trade with other nations and our overseas economic programs. The lawmakers want to find out whether our policies in this field are making friends or foes.

Another congressional body is getting ready to take a look into farm prices at home. This group wants to find out why prices of farm crops have continued to drop while the cost of food sold to housewives has remained at a high level.

Other Capitol Hill probes scheduled for this fall include investigations into (1) television programs and their effect on children; (2) the possibility of reducing our taxes next year; and (3) problems faced by Americans in the low-income group.

A Few Are Free

The families of a number of Americans, who were given permission by the communists to leave Red China a short time ago, are celebrating the release of their loved ones. Some of the 40 or so Americans held by the Reds have already started on their journey home. Unless a last-minute hitch develops, the others are expected to leave communist China soon.

As far as we know, the Americans now being freed by Red China are the last of many United States citizens once held by the communists. However, we are still uncertain of the fate of several hundred GIs of the Korean War who are still unaccounted for.

Talks in Geneva, Switzerland, between representatives of the U.S. and Red China led to the release of the 40 Americans. With this issue out of the way, the Geneva talks are expected to deal with the future of Formosa and other Red Chinese-American differences.

Next Week's Articles

Unless unforeseen developments occur, next week's main articles will deal with: (1) How physically fit is American youth? (2) Indonesia's elections.

SPORTS

IN pro baseball, pitchers are notoriously weak hitters, but Don Newcombe of the Brooklyn Dodgers is an exception to the rule. When the big hurler whacked his 7th home run of the season earlier this month, he set a new National League home-run record for pitchers. Newcombe has a long way to go, though, to match the lifetime record of Red Ruffing, the star pitcher of the New York Yankees for many years. In 21 big-league seasons, Ruffing hit 37 homers.

The big "thaw" in the cold war is being felt not only in diplomatic circles but in the sports world as well. It was recently announced that the Germans will be represented in the 1956 Olympic Games at Melbourne, Australia, by a single team made up of athletes from both free West Germany and communist East Germany.

Team members will be chosen on the basis of the best performances, but the divided status of Germany still presents some problems. For example, though the athletes will wear identical uniforms, different national anthems will be played for individual winners, according to which part of Germany they come from.

Will fleet Art Luppino of the University of Arizona this fall be able to match his gridiron record of a year ago? Last season he was the leading scorer in major-college football. His 166 points made the highest total scored by a big-college player since 1920.

An elusive stop-and-go runner,



ART LUPPINO, halfback at the University of Arizona. He was leading ground-gainer in college football last season.

Luppino scored 24 touchdowns and made 22 points after touchdown. The 175-pound halfback was the nation's rushing champion, carrying the ball 1,359 yards from scrimmage in 10 games. It was the most yardage ever gained by a college sophomore.

Luppino played high school football at La Jolla, California. He was also a fine baseball player in high school, but in college he is concentrating on the gridiron game.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

After Calvin Coolidge made known that he did not choose to run, he was besieged by newspaper reporters for a more elaborate statement.

"Exactly why don't you want to run for President again, Mr. Coolidge?" one reporter asked.

"No chance for advancement," was the President's reply.



"It's still 3-2 in the last half of the seventh."

When the man took his hunting dog out to show him off to several strangers, to his amazement the dog pointed at one of them.

"He's smarter than you think," said the man. "My name is Partridge."

Boss: What do you want?
Employee: May I use your phone? My wife told me to ask for a raise but she didn't tell me how much.

Now that planes have been invented that travel faster than sound, scientists probably will go to work on inventing a sound which travels faster than planes.

A rich uncle died and made the following bequest in his will:
"I leave to my beloved nephew, all of the money he owes me."

"Your cough sounds better this morning," said the doctor to the patient.
"Why shouldn't it?" replied the sick man disgustedly. "I've been practicing all night."

Middle East Conflict

(Continued from page 1)

stead of healing the sore spots, seems to have aggravated them.

It was in 1948 that the British gave up control of Palestine. The Jews, who had been settling in Palestine for many years, acted promptly to set up the new state of Israel. Arabs, who made up about 60 per cent of Palestine's population, opposed the move with arms.

The Arabs claimed that the territory rightfully belonged to them, since they were in a majority. They were supported by Arabs in Egypt, Jordan, and certain other neighboring lands. The Jews claimed that Palestine was theirs by historic rights. In the fighting that followed, the Jews secured control of about 75 per cent of Palestine.

The remainder went mostly to Jordan, but Egypt took over the Gaza strip. Though the United Nations arranged an armistice, a final peace treaty has never been drawn up. Both sides say they want peace—but on their own terms.

Before examining further the dispute between Israel and Egypt, let us look briefly at the two countries. Conditions inside each nation help to explain the current trouble.

Israel is a hot, dry country about the size of Massachusetts. Most of its 1,700,000 people—of whom 90 per cent are Jewish—live on the fertile coastal plain. Inland areas consist largely of barren hills or desert.

Good Progress

Though Israel has absorbed close to 750,000 immigrants in the past 7 years, she has made good progress in both farming and industry. Farming is the main activity, and farm output—mostly fruits and vegetables—has more than doubled since 1948. Industrial production rose by 60 per cent between 1950 and 1954.

Even so, Israel still has to depend partly on loans and gifts from abroad. She aims at being self-sufficient, but it will take further development of farms and industries. Average yearly income in Israel is today about \$440 per person. (It is more than \$1,600 in the United States.) David Ben-Gurion, Moshe Sharett, and other Israeli leaders are anxious to boost living standards further and get the country on a sound economic basis.

Egypt, almost the size of Texas and New Mexico combined, is also a hot,

dry country. It is 48 times the size of Israel, but 96 per cent of Egypt is uninhabited desert. The nation's 22 million people—of whom 95 per cent are Arabs—are almost all crowded into the narrow, fertile Nile Valley. Raising cotton is the main occupation.

Living standards are much lower in Egypt than in Israel. Average income in Egypt is about \$87 per person each year. Illiteracy and disease are widespread.

Nonetheless, the Egyptian people today have something which they have not had for years—hope for a better future. In 1952 a group of young army officers, disgusted at the backward conditions in their land, seized the government. Under the new regime headed by Colonel Gamal Abdel Nasser, Egypt is beginning to tackle the problems of illiteracy, disease, and unfair distribution of land in a determined way. But it may take a long time before living standards can be substantially pushed upward.

Newsman's Views

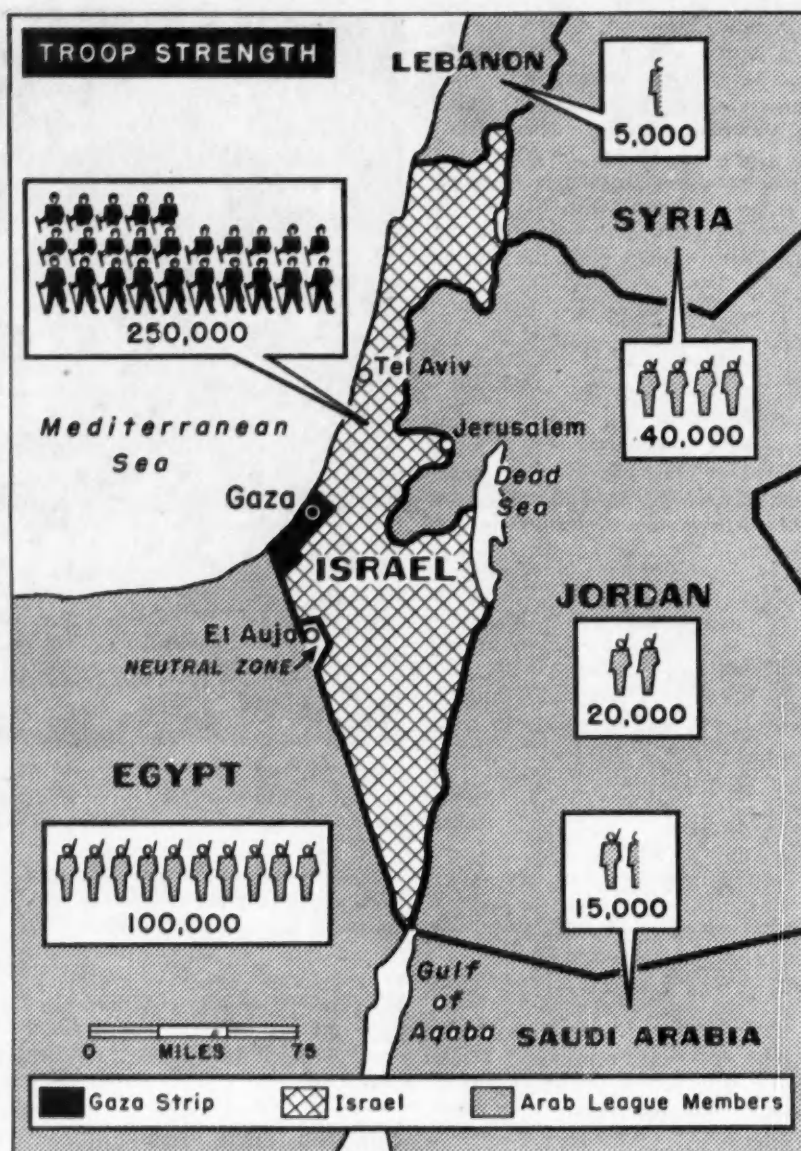
One newspaperman who recently visited both Israel and Egypt wrote: "Israel . . . has a Western discipline and efficiency the Arabs have not achieved." Another newsman who also traveled through both lands described Israel as "a new society in the making" and Egypt as "an old nation in the process of reformation."

Behind the current conflict is disagreement on a wide range of subjects. But—more than anything else—the dispute revolves around the question of the recognition of Israel. Up to now, Egypt and the other Arab lands have refused to recognize Israel as a free and independent nation.

Israel has long wanted to work out a final peace settlement following the 1948 fighting, but the refusal of Egypt and her Arab allies to recognize the Jewish nation has prevented such action. It has complicated Israel's domestic problems, for, without a final peace settlement, she has had to spend large sums on defense that otherwise would have gone for farm and industrial development.

Moreover, Israel has been hurt badly by the refusal of the Arab lands to trade with her. They are a logical market for her manufactured goods and could supply her with certain raw materials—oil, for example.

Egypt says it has no intention of



ISRAEL'S TROUBLES with Egypt involve the Egyptian-held Gaza strip

recognizing Israel. The Egyptians claim that the Jews had no right to seize the land they took in Palestine from the Arabs. They also charge that Israel, if once recognized, might then decide to seize more land from her Arab neighbors.

The Egyptians think that as long as they refuse to recognize Israel and keep pressure on her, the young Jewish nation cannot become strong, and may eventually collapse. Then the Arab refugees could return to their homes, which—so the Egyptians claim—were wrongfully taken from them.

Israel's Answer

Israel denies the charges of the Egyptians. Her leaders argue along these lines:

"All Israel wants to do is to live at peace with her neighbors. If Egypt and the other Arab nations are wise, they will adopt a similar attitude toward Israel.

"Our nation is here to stay. The Arabs, however hard they try, can never destroy it. So they might as well accept the situation as it is and profit by it instead of hurting themselves. They could benefit greatly by trading with Israel and copying her modern farming and industrial methods.

"Palestine belonged to the Jews long before the Arabs took it over. Historically, the Jewish people have far stronger claims to this region than do the Arabs. Moreover, much greater progress has been made in the former Palestine territory during a 7-year period of Jewish leadership than was made during centuries of Arab rule."

Such are the conflicting views of the two nations. Efforts to work out a

peace settlement are complicated by a variety of problems—boundaries, border raiding, water rights, the status of the city of Jerusalem (now divided between Israel and the Arab land of Jordan), and the Arab refugees. The latter problem is especially troublesome.

Close to 900,000 Arab refugees are now in border areas just outside Israel. Besides those in the Gaza strip, there are large numbers in Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria. Most of them fled from Palestine during the 1948 fighting.

The Arab refugees want to go back to their former homes, but they say they will not accept Israeli rule. Israel has refused to accept the bulk of the refugees, although she has permitted the return of some 45,000.

The Arab states have taken in small numbers of the refugees as immigrants, but in general have resisted the efforts of the United Nations to arrange permanent homes for the refugees. Some sympathizers of Israel claim that the Arab lands are deliberately keeping the Palestine refugees in camps so as to stir up public opinion against Israel. Egypt and the other Arab lands deny they are doing so. They say they have no room for settling the refugees.

Refugee Support

The result is that the United Nations is having to support most of the refugees. The bill for their upkeep is about \$25,000,000 a year. As the largest financial contributor to the fund, the United States foots about 65 per cent of the bill.

Our country is deeply concerned about the recent troubles in, or near,



DAVID BEN-GURION retired as Israel's Premier, but was expected to return to that post late last week



PREMIER GAMAL NASSER of Egypt helped to abolish his country's monarchy in 1952 and establish a republic

the Gaza strip. We are afraid that the conflict there may erupt into a full-scale war which will draw in all the Arab lands. No matter how the conflict came out, the whole Middle East would then be weakened and opened to the spread of communism.

We do not want Soviet influence to spread into the Middle East. The area is rich in oil, a vital fuel in this age of mechanized warfare. Possession of the Middle East's vast oil reserves—found especially in Iraq and Saudi Arabia—might upset the present balance of military power in favor of the communists.

Moreover, the spread of Soviet influence into the Middle East would increase Red pressure on India and southeast Asia. It would also probably deprive the western powers of the use of the Suez Canal, a vital lifeline for shipping between Western Europe and the Far East.

Our leaders emphasize that the more friendly atmosphere created by the Geneva Conference must not lull us into thinking that the Soviet Union no longer has any interest in the Middle East. There is ample evidence that she has long been intent on extending her influence into that area. It is known that Russia recently offered to supply arms and equipment to Egypt. The Soviet leaders would undoubtedly like to stir up enough trouble in the Middle East so as to enable communist leaders to seize power.

Consequently, the United States recently made a specific peace proposal aimed at settling the dispute which has kept the Middle East upset. Put forth by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, the proposal fell into 3 major channels, as follows:

Dulles' Proposal

Refugees. We urged Israel to pay the Arab refugees for property which they lost when they fled from Palestine in 1948. We indicated, moreover, that we would help supply funds through a loan to Israel for the purpose of reimbursing the Arabs.

Boundaries. Israel and the Arab lands were asked to come to agreement on frontier problems and make the troubled boundary areas safe. The United States offered to help settle the boundary problems, provided the disputing countries want our help.

Future peace. Once the other problems have been settled, President Eisenhower will recommend that we guarantee the new boundaries. In other words, if any country should try to change the boundaries by force, we would act as policeman and take steps to prevent such an effort.

As we go to press, both sides are studying the U. S. proposal. Whether they will accept it remains to be seen. Feeling runs high between Israel and Egypt, but U. S. leaders are convinced that neither country actually wants war. The staggering problems which each nation faces at home would only be intensified by an all-out conflict.

In both countries, though, there are extremists. What U. S. leaders fear is that continued incidents along the Gaza-strip and elsewhere might inflame public opinion so much that the extremists would get the upper hand. In that case, a full-fledged war might break out. Thus, we are making every effort to resolve the differences peaceably, and are supporting the efforts of the United Nations truce officials to end the border disturbances between Israel and Egypt.



VANTHA HEM REUM of Cambodia doing a Voice of America broadcast

Vital Outpost in Asia

America Is Helping the Small Indochinese Land of Cambodia to Remain Free of Communist Domination

EACH day of the week, an attractive girl from far-off Cambodia broadcasts to the people of her country in their native tongue over a Voice of America transmitter in Washington, D. C. Vantha Hem Reum tells her people about the policies and aims of the United States government in an attempt to combat communist propaganda in that area of the world.

Cambodia is a small, colorful, independent nation that stands as one of the free world's important outposts against communist expansion.

The land. Cambodia, about the size of the state of Missouri, juts down into the South China Sea and is one of the countries which, as a group, make up Indochina. Although it lies inside the tropic region, its range of altitude—from sea level to mountain heights—gives a wide variety of temperature, rainfall, and plant life.

The people. Cambodians are as varied as their land. Many different nationality groups make up the total population of about 4½ million.

Most of the people are peasants, farming small plots of land near their villages. However, only a small part of the land is cultivated. More than half of the area is mountainous, and most of the farmers are crowded into the lowlands where rivers frequently overflow their banks, thereby provid-

ing ample water for rice growing.

In many villages, the houses stand above the ground on columns to escape the seasonal floods. Mats hung from bamboo framework make the walls, and the roofs are palm-leaf thatch. Furniture consists of mats, boxes, and utensils.

Life for the young people in Cambodia is much different from that of American boys and girls. An elementary and high school education is provided by the Buddhists—the major religious group in that country. Only about 3 out of 4 children go to any school at all, and many of these drop out after a few years. There are some special schools for those who wish to enter the professions.

The youths who do not attend school help out on the farms of their families in the winter, at which time most planting is done because of the plentiful rainfall. The social life of young Cambodians centers largely around the home and family.

Farm products. Rice and fish are the chief foods and the major crops. Most of the farm land is devoted to growing rice, but some rubber is also raised, as well as limited quantities of corn and sugar. Agricultural methods are primitive, although tractors are beginning to be used on some state farms. For the most part, though, oxen pull rough wooden plows.

Miscellaneous. A kingdom was established in Cambodia more than 2,000 years ago by a tribe called the Khmers. Their civilization grew and reached the peak of its glory around 1100 A.D., when it slowly began to go down hill. Despite its decline, the area remained independent until the 19th century, when it came under the rule of France. In 1950, Cambodia became a free state associated with the French Union.

By far the largest city in Cambodia is Phnom Penh, the capital, with a population of 350,000. Among the more important industrial concerns are saw mills, textile factories, and sugar refineries. A popular tourist attraction is the site of Angkor Wat, where the ruins of the magnificent temples and palaces built by the Khmers stand.



CAMBODIA is 1 of 3 lands that make up Indochina. The others are Laos and Viet Nam. Viet Nam has now split into 2 parts. The North is communist; the South is not.

Job or School?

By Walter E. Myer

ONE of the employees at a garage where I stopped briefly on a recent afternoon was telling me of errors that people make in caring for automobiles. From that point, the conversation veered to the subject of other kinds of mistakes.

"I don't have to think twice to recall the biggest mistake I ever made," the garage worker told me. "It happened when I was 15 years old. I had a year-round job offered me, and the pay—for a teen-aged boy—was good."

"I decided that if I took the job, I would be getting a head start on my classmates, who would be seeking jobs after they finished high school. So I quit school and went to work."

"For a couple of years, I was positive I had made a smart decision. I had much more money to spend than my friends who had remained in school. But it wasn't long before I found that the lack of a high school education was holding me back. Within a few years, most of my friends who had finished high school were forging ahead of me. Yes, sir, if I had it to do over again, I'd finish my high school course."

As I drove away, I thought how often I had heard similar sentiments. So many people later regret having left school early. On the other hand, I have never heard anyone say that he was sorry he had finished high school.

Yet the issue of whether or not to stay in school keeps coming up—and particularly at this time of year. In September and October, some young people find the temptation to quit school a powerful one. Many of them may have held jobs during the summer holidays, and the loss of a salary comes as an unhappy shock to them. They may be having trouble, too, in settling down to the academic routine, and a job seems a good means of "escape." So they leave school and go to work.

If you have been considering taking this step, you had better think it over carefully. There are compelling reasons why you should complete your high school education.

For one thing, you are likely to be better off financially if you finish school. A recently published survey based on 1950 census reports shows that the average person who leaves school after the 8th grade has lifetime earnings of \$116,000. Lifetime income of the average high school graduate is \$165,000. Four additional years of schooling means almost \$50,000 more in earnings.

With a high school education you will be better qualified, too, to play an active part in civic affairs than if you had left school early. Our democratic form of society requires minds that can cut through propaganda and make sound decisions on the basis of facts.

Of course, some people with little formal education have been highly successful, but they are the exceptions to the rule.



Walter E. Myer

A Career for Tomorrow - - Landscape Work

IN recent years, there has been a growing demand for landscape architects. They play an important role in contributing to the attractive appearance of our cities.

Your duties, if you choose this vocation, will be to develop or improve the landscape near homes, schools, and other structures. Landscape architects also plan and supervise the construction of such projects as public parks and recreational areas.

The landscape architect is not only interested in the appearance and beauty of his project, but he is also concerned with its usefulness, its method of construction, and its cost. In the development of a new site or the improvement of an existing one, the landscape architect's job is to plan the entire area so that all parts—the walls, terraces, roads, and so on—will fit into a well organized scheme.

Your qualifications should include creative ability, executive talent, and practical business sense. You must be able to visualize a completed unit whether it is a layout for the grounds of a small home, of a modern factory site, or of a large city development. You will be required to turn out designs that are useful and practical, as well as beautiful; and the work must be done within the budget provided for the project.

Your training can be acquired through on-the-job experience, but most landscape architects receive their training at recognized colleges that give courses in the field. As a rule,

the better jobs go to such college-trained persons.

After college, you will need several years of experience before you become a full-fledged landscape architect. Throughout your working career you should keep up with new developments in such related fields as



A LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, shown at his drawing board, works both indoors and out

engineering, art, and horticulture. If you don't, you will soon find yourself behind the times.

Job opportunities for persons trained in this vocation are expected to be favorable for some time to come. At present, there are more jobs in this field than there are persons to fill them.

Landscape architects work for private firms, or for federal, state, or city governments. A large number of them go into business for themselves.

Many of these operate greenhouses in addition to their landscape work.

Your salary, as a beginner, is likely to be about \$3,500 a year. The average pay of experienced persons is between \$5,000 and \$9,000 annually. Positions with the federal government pay from \$3,410 to about \$10,000 a year. Those who go into business for themselves have widely varying incomes, just as do owners of other types of businesses.

Advantages include (1) the work is pleasant, creative, and often challenging; and (2) job opportunities have been good for quite a long time now.

The chief disadvantage is the uncertainty of employment during bad times. The need for the services of professionally trained landscape architects is not always recognized. Hence, during a business depression, work usually becomes scarce.

Though most landscape architects are men, there are also opportunities in the field for well-qualified women.

Further information, including a free pamphlet, can be secured from the American Society of Landscape Architects, 9 Park Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts.

Pronunciations

Ben-Gurion—bén gōōr'i-on

Cambodia—kām-bō'di-uh

Cypriots—sip'ri-ōts

Gamal Abdel Nasser—gā-māl' āb-dēl nās'ēr

Gaza—gā'zā

Phnom Penh—pnawm pēn

News Quiz

School Shortages

1. Approximately what is the total number of students now attending our nation's schools and colleges?

2. Give figures showing how much the school population has grown since last year.

3. Is America now obtaining new teachers and classrooms rapidly enough to keep pace with the growth in school population? Support your answer with facts.

4. Give arguments for and against the general idea of federal financial aid for school construction.

5. Tell of the federal aid proposal which was made by President Eisenhower early this year. What two types of criticism were made against it?

6. Did Congress, during its last session, approve any new program of federal aid for the schools?

Discussion

Do you think there should be a major increase in federal spending for school purposes? If so, do you favor President Eisenhower's program, or would you prefer some other plan? Explain your position.

Israel and Egypt

1. Why has the Gaza strip been a trouble spot in recent weeks?

2. Under whose control today is the area once known as Palestine?

3. Compare Israel and Egypt in size, population, and living conditions.

4. Give the Egyptian views on the question of recognition of Israel.

5. How does Israel feel on the issue of recognition?

6. Describe the refugee problem around Israel's borders.

7. Why is the United States deeply concerned about the conflict between Israel and Egypt?

8. What proposal has Secretary of State Dulles recently put forth to settle this dispute?

Discussion

1. How do you think the issue of the recognition of Israel could best be resolved in the interests of peace in the Middle East? Explain.

2. Providing boundary differences can be worked out between Israel and Egypt, do you favor having the United States guarantee that the new boundaries would not be changed? Why, or why not?

Miscellaneous

1. What trouble is taking place in the African land of Sudan?

2. Briefly explain the dispute over the fingerprinting provision of the McCarran immigration law.

3. Tell of several congressional investigations that are now going on.

4. Name 5 problems which will receive consideration in the United Nations General Assembly.

5. What is meant by the word "Enosis"?

6. Why is Cambodia considered to be an outpost against communism?

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Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (b) overshadow or hide; 2. (c) has signed the official roll and is qualified to vote; 3. (d) rural; 4. (c) not suited to the present time; 5. (c) people entitled to vote in an election; 6. (a) China; 7. (b) vote in an election.

Historical Backgrounds - - Flood Control

"WE must act now to prevent any more costly floods." That is what people of New England and nearby areas are saying as they repair the damages wrought by last month's devastating floods.

President Eisenhower and congressional leaders are also determined to push ahead with projects aimed at curbing the danger of floods. In fact, the White House is preparing ambitious new flood-control plans for consideration by Capitol Hill when Congress meets again in January. The President is also studying the possibility of having government-sponsored insurance plans to help flood victims recover losses when disaster strikes.

It hasn't been too many years since the federal government first became active in helping states and communities fight floods. Early in our history, very little was done to try to keep rivers from spilling over their banks. In time, local communities and the states took some measures along this line. These invariably proved to be inadequate when a river went on a rampage.

Then, in 1879, the federal government adopted its first plan to help the states along the Mississippi River build levees to keep out flood waters. The plan was only partly carried out and was soon all but forgotten. It wasn't until after disastrous floods occurred along the Mississippi in 1927 that Uncle Sam decided to carry out anti-flood programs in earnest. At that time, 313 persons lost their lives and property damage amounted to some 300 million dollars.

In 1928, the Army Corps of Engineers, which supervises many of our flood-control projects, built a series of levees along the Mississippi. But 10 years later, when that mighty river rose higher than ever before on record, these measures also proved to be inadequate. Flood waters smashed through the levees. When the wreckage was cleared away, about 500 deaths were reported. Property damage totaled more than 500 million dollars.

Since that time, a new system of levees and flood channels has helped tame the mighty Mississippi River from Cairo, Illinois, to the Gulf of Mexico. Dams, reservoirs, and dikes along the Missouri, the Tennessee, and other rivers have also helped prevent widespread damage from floods in nearby communities.

The Army Corps of Engineers has



THE JOHNSTOWN flood in 1889 took over 2,000 lives and caused damage such as is shown in this photo

completed 391 flood-control projects since 1928 at a cost of about 4½ billion dollars. These measures, it is estimated, have already prevented more than 7 billion dollars in flood damage.

Despite progress made thus far, experts say that no major river basin in the country is yet free from flood threats. In New England and nearby areas, for instance, most anti-flood projects haven't gone beyond the planning stage. Engineers say we must build new projects costing from 10 to 15 billion dollars before the nation will have the minimum protection needed against overflowing rivers.

Floods occur most frequently in central United States, New England, the southeastern states, and the Far West. One of the most spectacular water disasters in our history was the Johnstown flood of 1889. The Pennsylvania town was practically wiped out.

All told, floods have caused well over 11,000 deaths in the United States since casualty records were first kept in 1889. Property damage during that time has amounted to more than 5½ billion dollars.

Our government is spending money at the rate of 59 billion dollars a year. We have become so accustomed to reading about vast sums of money that it's hard for us to realize just how much a billion dollars really involves. If Julius Caesar were still living and, all this time, had been trying to spend a billion dollars at the rate of \$1,000 a day, he would not be out of money until the year 2697.